

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:
a third party originator to send a notification/message of a multimedia message to a recipient without the use of a multi-media messaging service center (MMSC); and
a message handler to manage ~~the~~ a responses sent by the recipient to the MMSC.
2. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the message handler comprises:
a proxy server to redirect responses sent by the recipient to the MMSC.
3. (Original) The system of claim 2, wherein the proxy server comprises:
a message ID recognition logic to identify notifications/messages originating from the third party originator; and
a message screener to screen responses directed to the MMSC by the recipient, and identify responses sent in response to the third party originator.
4. (Original) The system of claim 3, wherein the proxy server further comprises:
a message forwarder to forward the responses directed to the MMSC by the recipient in response to the third party originator.

5. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the message handler comprises:

a dummy message inserter to insert a dummy message into the MMSC, such that the MMSC accepts the response sent by the recipient to the MMSC.

6. (Original) The system of claim 5, wherein the MMSC forwards the responses sent by the recipient to the MMSC, as indicated by the dummy message inserter.

7. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the message handler comprises:

a message ID spoofer to select a message ID for the notification/message sent by the third party originator that will be handled by the MMSC.

8. (Original) The system of claim 7, wherein the message ID identifies the third party originator to the MMSC.

9. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the message handler comprises:

a message redirector resident on a recipient's device, the message redirector identifying responses sent in response to a third party originated message, and redirecting the responses to the third party originator.

10. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:
a message handler to ensure that a response directed to an multi-media messaging service center (MMSC) in response to a notification/message by a third party originator to a recipient are managed without triggering error messages in the MMSC.

11. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the message handler is part of the MMSC.

12. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the message handler is a separate proxy server.

13. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the message handler is part of the third party originator.

14. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the message handler is part of the recipient's device.

15. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the message handler comprises:

a dummy message inserter to notify the MMSC that a notification/message has been sent directly to the recipient.

16. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the message handler comprises:

a message ID spoofer to select a message ID which indicates to the MMSC that the third party originator sent a notification/message to the recipient.

17. (Withdrawn) A system comprising:

a third party originator to send a notification/message directly to one or more recipients using an authentication code;

a multi-media message service center (MMSC) to provide the authentication code to the third party originator, and to use the authentication code, included in responses from recipients to the MMSC, to handle the responses.